

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 00293 080447Z

21

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 EUR-25 NEA-10

DRC-01 /154 W

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R 080347Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0564

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 00293

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PINT, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON DANANG REFUGEE SITUATION

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM AMCONSUL DANANG JAN 7,
H/W REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO. QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0010

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, PINT, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON DANANG REFUGEE SITUATION

REF: A. DANANG 1264

B. DANANG 1271

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 00293 080447Z

1. SUMMARY: THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO FURTHER DISTURBANCE AT ANY OF THE DANANG AREA REFUGEE CAMPS SINCE THE DECEMBER 28 DEMONSTRATION AT CAMP BOOKS REPORTED REF B. THE MAYOR OF DANANG BELIEVES THE SITUATION IN THE CAMPS IS UNDER CONTROL AND ANTICIPATES NO FURTHER DISTURBANCES. RICE DUE REFUGEES THROUGH THE MONTH OF DECEMBER HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO ALL 30 REFUGEE CAMPS IN THE DANANG AREA EXCEPT TO THOSE REFUGEES STRICKEN FROM THE ROLLS BY THE NATIONAL CADRE CENSUS. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE FORMED BY THE MAYOR IS AT WORK INVESTIGATING COMPLAINTS FROM THOSE REMOVED FROM THE REFUGEE LISTS. THE RESETTLEMENT FROM CAMP BOOKS OF SOME OF THE QUWRG TRI REFUGEES SOUTH TO BINH TUY, POSTPONED FROM THE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED DATE OF DECEMBER 29, RESUMED DECEMBER 30 AND HAS PROCEEDED SMOOTHLY. WHILE ADDITIONAL PROTESTS FROM UNREINSTATED GHOSTS REMAIN POSSIBLE, CONGEN BELIEVES THEY WOULD BE MINOR AND, FURTHER, THAT THE MAYOR HAS THE RESOURCES AND TACT TO CONTINUE TO CONTAIN WITHOUT VIOLENCE ANY FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS THATMIGHT DEVELOP. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A JANUARY 4 CONVERSATION WITH A CONGEN REPRESENTATIVE, DANANG MAYOR COL. DAO TRONG TUONG SAID THAT THE SITUATION IN THE DANANG AREA REFUGEE CAMPS IS UNDER CONTROL. HE DOES NOT ANTICIPATE ANY FURTHER DISTURBANCES.

3. ACCORDING TO MAYOR TUONG, THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF REF B BEGA *TS DELIBERATIONS JANUARY 2, REVIEWING COMPLAINTS SUBMITTED BY INDIVIDUALS STRICKEN FROM THE REFUGEE ROLLS BY THE RECENT NATIONAL CADRE CENSUS. LTC. VU DUC CHINH, AN MR-1 REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTER-MINISTERIAL COUNCIL FOR REFUGEE RELIEF, WHO WAS PLACED AT THE MAYOR'S DISPOSAL BY DR. PHAN QUANG DAN DECEMBER 22, IS CURRENTLY ACTING AS THE MAYOR'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, OF WHICH THE MAYOR IS CHAIRMAN. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE THE DANANG CITY SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICE CHIEF, WHO HAS AN OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PURCHASE AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION FOR ALL OF THE DANANG AREA REFUGEE CAMPS, AND TEN OTHER DANANG CITY SERVICE CHIEFS. (SOME QUANG TRI PROVINCE OFFICIALS HAVE CRITICIZED THE COMMITTEE'S LACK OF QUANG TRI OFFICIALDOM AMONG ITS MEMBERSHIP.)

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 00293 080447Z

4. THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL RESOLVE COMPLAINTS LOCALLY, WAS AUTHORIZED BY DR. PHAN QUANG DAN ON HIS DECEMBER 22 VISIT TO DANANG, IN RESPONSE TO THE DANANG MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION THAT LOCAL RATHER THAN SAIGON COMPLAINT RESOLUTION WAS PREFERABLE AND WOULD MORE EXPEDITIOUSLY SETTLE GRIEVANCES. THE MAYOR IMPLIED JAN 4 THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE THE APPROXIMATELY 5000 COMPLAINTS REGISTERED BY JANUARY 10

AS HE HAD HOPED INITIALLY.

5. MEANWHILE, ON DECEMBER 30 348 FAMILIES (1,735 PEOPLE) LEFT CAMP BOOKS FOR BINH TUY. (THEIR DEPARTURE HAD BEEN DELAYED SLIGHTLY BECAUSE OF THE DECEMBER 28 DEMONSTRATION.) THESE RESETTLERS WERE PAID ALL REFUGEE ALLOWANCES DUE THEM THROUGH DECEMBER. ON JANUARY 6 AN ADDITIONAL 345 FAMILIES (1,805) PEOPLE) LEFT FOR BINH TUY.

6. COMMENT: WHILE IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE WILL COMPLETE ITS REVIEW OF COMPLAINTS QUICKLY ENOUGH TO SATISFY ALL COMPLAINANTS, THE COMMITTEE IS IN PLACE AND IS FUNCTIONING, THE CAMPS HAVE BEEN QUIET SINCE THE DECEMBER 28 DEMONSTRATION, AND THE MAYOR SEEMS TO HAVE THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL. THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE PROTESTS CANNOT BE COMPLETELY DISCOUNTED, HOWEVER, PARTICULARLY AS THE COMMITTEE IS UNLIKELY TO RULE IN FAVOR OF THE "GHOST" REFUGEE IN 100 PERCENT OF ITS DECISIONS. IN THE CONGEN VIEW, HOWEVER, ANY FUTURE DEMONSTRATIONS WOULD MOST LIKELY BE MINOR IN NATURE. FURTHERMORE, THE CONGEN BELIEVES THAT THE MAYOR HAS THE TACT AND THE RESOURCES TO CONTINUE TO CONTAIN WITHOUT VIOLENCE ANY PROTESTS WHICH MIGHT DEVELOP. END COMMENT.
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MARTIN

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